

CUSTOMER NO.: 24498
Serial No. 10/580,807
Office Action dated: 03/18/09
Response dated: 09/18/09

PATENT
PU030306

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-14 are pending in the Application. Claim 1-14 are rejected by the Examiner. Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, and 12-14 are amended by Applicants. Claims 2 and 9 are cancelled in this amendment without disclaimer or prejudice.

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1 and 12 have been amended to further recite the subject matter of claim 2. Namely during said time interval, said first set of circuits excludes a lamp power circuit and said second set of circuits includes said lamp power circuit description thereof.

Claim 2 has been cancelled.

Claims 3 and 5 have been amended to correct dependency.

Claim 6 has been amended to clarify the subject matter being sought. Claim 6 now recites "wherein said controller selects a lamp power circuit as a member of said first set of circuits based upon a condition of said timer."

Claim 13 been amended to clarify the subject matter being sought. Claim 13 now recites "determining if a lamp power circuit is a member of said first set of circuits based upon said indication."

Claim 14 has been amended to clarify the subject matter being sought. Claim 14 now recites "wherein said selected circuits exclude said image lighting circuit based upon said indication."

No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,704,061 to Mears et al. ("Mears"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

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The problem being address is the restart time required after turning off a video display having high intensity discharge lamp. Such high intensity discharge lamps typically require a period time to fully de-energize before they can be energized again. However, consumers have become accustomed to the convenience of "instant-on" and are not used to a restart period.

The present invention seeks to minimize the wait for the "cool down" period required after powering down a high intensity discharge lamp by allowing other circuits (but not the lamp) to be turned on during the "cool down" period. To affect this, a timer is used to measure the "cool down" interval. If a power on signal is received during this "cool down" interval then, the lamp power circuit is excluded from the circuits powered on. Thus, the circuits selected to be powered on (or energized) depends on how long since a power off signals that de-energized the circuits was received.

Mears addresses the problem differently. In Mears, when a power off signal is received, the lamp is maintained on for a period of time while the rest of the display is turned off. Thus, if a power on signal is received during the period when the lamp is still on, the display is capable of "instant on" without a restart period (because the lamp wasn't de-energized). Mears doesn't minimize the wait for the "cool down" period, Mears just delays the start of the "cool down" period.

Amended independent claim 1 now recites a controller responsive to a first signal by providing power to a first set of circuits of said display; said controller responsive to a second signal by removing power from a second set of circuits of said video display; a timer defining a time interval between an instance of said second signal and an instance of said first signal; wherein, during said time interval, said first set of circuits excludes a lamp power circuit and said second set of circuits includes said lamp power circuit. Thus the timer defines an interval from a an issuance of power off signal (second signal) and an issuance of a power on signal (first signal). During this period the first set of circuits excludes a lamp power circuit and the second set of circuits includes the lamp power circuit. Thus, during the interval after removing power to the

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circuits including the lamp power circuit (the "cool down" period) any signal to provide power to the circuits will result in the lamp power circuits being excluded from the circuits being provided power. This is concept that is not disclosed in Mears. In fact, Mears appears to disclose the opposite. In Mears, a signal to remove power from the circuits results in the lamp being excluded from the circuits being powered down and the timer is actually used to define the interval the lamp is maintained on after power is removed from the rest of the circuits. Furthermore, In Mears a signal to provide power received during the interval the lamp is maintained powered results in the lamp being included in the circuits that are proved power. That is, power is maintained to the lamp and it never actually turned off. In Mears there is no selective powering of components based on whether the lamp is in a "cool down" period as provided for by amended claim 1. Thus, Mears fails to disclose each and every element of claim 1.

Amended independent claim 6 is similar to claim 1 but recites "energizing" and "de-energizing" in place of "providing power" and "removing power." As such Mears fails to disclose each and every element of claim 6 for much the same reasons as with claim 1. In addition claim 6 states "said controller selects a lamp power circuit as a member of said first set of circuits based on a condition of said timer." As mentioned above, Mears does not select which component to power bases on whether the lamp is in a "cool down" period. As such Mears also fails to disclose this element of claim 6.

Independent claim 11 recites "said timer commencing a time interval when said control circuit removes power form said image lighting lamp; said control circuit maintaining said image lighting lamp de-energized during said time interval; wherein said control circuit is capable of applying power to circuits of said video display apparatus, other than said image lighting lamp, during said time interval." Thus, the interval begins when the power is removed from the lamp, the lamp is maintained de-energized during the interval, and the control circuit can provide power to the other circuits of the display, *except the lamp*, during the interval. As set forth above Mears does not disclose such functionality but actually disclose the opposite. In Mears, a signal to remove power from the circuits results in the lamp being excluded from the

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circuits being powered down and the timer is actually used to define the interval the lamp is maintained on after power is removed from the rest of the circuits. Furthermore, In Mears a signal to provide power received during the interval the lamp is maintained powered results in the lamp being included in the circuits that are proved power. That is, power is maintained to the lamp and it never actually turned off. Thus Mears fails to disclose each and every element of independent claim 11.

Independent claim 12 is method claim version of claim 1 with the further recitation that outside of the interval, the first set of circuits is the same as the second set of circuits. Thus, for much the same reasons as with claim 1, Mears fails to disclose each and every element of claim 12.

Independent claim 13 is similar to claim 12 but recites determining if a lamp power circuit is a member of first set of circuits based upon said indication (of the time interval) similar to claim 6. Thus, for much the same reasons as for claim 1, 6, and 12, Mears fails to disclose each and every element of claim 13

Independent claim 14 recites the same subject matter as claim 6. Thus, for much the same reasons as with claim 6, Mears fails to disclose each and every element of claim 14.

Thus independent claim 1, 6, and 11-14 are not anticipated by Mears under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Since pending claims 3-5, 7, 8, and 10 depend from either claim 1 or claim 6, and as such, incorporate each and every element of the respective independent claim, claims 3-5, 7, 8, and 10 are also not anticipated by Mears under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the rejection to pending claims 1, 3-8, 10-14 be withdrawn and the claims passed to issue.

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CONCLUSION

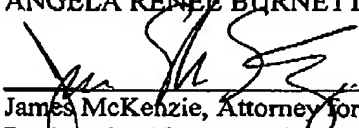
Applicants respectfully submit that the amended pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Renewed reconsideration for a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge the \$1110.00 fee for the 3 Month Extension, and any other charges that may be due, in connection with this requested amendment, to Deposit Account No. 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

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September 18, 2009